

CHARGE THAT BEEF TRUST CREATED DUMMY MILLIONAIRE IS MADE BASIS OF SUIT

J. Ogden Armour, Louis F. Swift and Edward Morris, the food trust millionaires, have played an amazing business game through secret ownership of millions of dollars' worth of property, if allegations are true contained in a creditors' bill filed in the Superior Court of Cook county by Arba N. Waterman, former judge of the Circuit Court.

According to Former Judge Waterman's long, detailed sworn statements, this is what the Chicago stockyards crowd did:

1. They set up Louis C. Ehle, their attorney and confidential man, in business as the "cottonseed oil king," and Ehle claimed, and R. G. Dun's commercial agency reports verified Ehle's claim, that he was the head man, owner and keeper of profits of cottonseed oil mills and warehouses worth over \$3,000,000.

2. From 1906 to 1914 Ehle bought 15 cottonseed oil mills and 75 gins in Texas and Arkansas, was president of the company that ran all these mills and gins under the title of The Louis C. Ehle Cotton Oil Mills (Not Inc.), and the statements of R. G. Dun & Co. that Ehle was the money and brains of the company was never challenged by the Armours, Swifts and Morris, though the food trust millionaires were the real owners of the whole combination.

3. Early in 1914 something happened the food trust millionaires didn't like and they kicked out the dummy straw-millionaire they had made, took away from him all the oil mills and gins, a \$200,000 bank account in Chicago and left him up to his ears swimming in debts.

4. A Cook county grand jury investigates Ehle. Henry Veeder and Albert Veeder, two well-known lawyers in the regular employ of the beef trust, testify. Indictments are returned against Ehle, charging a forgery of \$3,000 March 10, 1914, on the Merchants' Loan & Trust Co., an embezzlement of \$615.14 from Sarah A. Burns, 2023 Indiana av., and Former Judge Waterman schedules \$100,000 of property and goes bail for Ehle.

5. Now Waterman puts forth the claim that between Feb. 14 and March 19 he loaned \$38,500 to Louis C. Ehle, believing that Ehle was a real multi-millionaire and not a dummy for the Armour-Swift-Morris crowd. And Waterman wants a show-down from the packers.

The foregoing paragraphs are an attempt at putting in a nutshell summary a mass of statements that cover typewritten sheets making a book one inch thick. Down under the whole smear, running a sinister

streak through it, is this allegation:

Louis C. Ehle held property titles and could show papers that convinced people he was the owner of oil mills and land worth \$3,000,000, but behind closed doors with other beef trust lawyers and confidential agents he signed other papers, "declarations of trust," and through these papers J. Ogden Armour, Louis F. Swift and Edward Morris held actual ownership and kicked out their dummy millionaire when they got through with him.

R. G. Dun & Company's statement furnished to Judge Waterman Oct. 18, 1913, reads in part:

"In 1906 and 1907 Mr. Ehle acquired a number of cotton oil mills throughout the south and continues to operate them, using the style, Louis-Louis C. Ehle Cotton Oil Mills (Not Inc.), but in 1911 dropped the word 'cotton.' Francis W. Dewson is a practical cottonseed oil man and has been identified with the business many years. He was for years the secretary of the Consumers' Cotton Oil Co. in Texas, but for a number of